

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BANGKO 13920 270349Z

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 DHA-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01 SCA-01 TRSE-00 /072 W

-----093455 270356Z /14

R 270330Z JUN 77

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

INFO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 3608

CINCPAC HONOLULU

JCRC/NAS BARBERS PT HAWAII

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 13920

FOLLOWING TELEGRAM SENT ACTION AMEMBASSY BANGKOK; INFO
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE DATED JUNE 24 REPEATED FOR INFO

QUOTE

UDORN 0113

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SHUM, PGOV, TH, LA

SUBJECT: INTERVIEW WITH TWO RELEASED THAI DETAINEES

REF: VIENTIANE 0952

1. CONREP INTERVIEWED IN NONG KHAI PROVINCE CAPITAL JUNE 22
MR. PRASERT BOONSONG AND MR. BUNLEUR BOVAWASANAROM, TWO OF
SEVEN THAI CIVILIAN DETAINEES RELEASED FROM SAM KHE PRISON BY LPDR
AUTHORITIES JUNE 20.

2. IN SEPARATE INTERVIEWS BOTH MEN STATED THAT LPDR POLICE
ARRESTED THEM IN VIENTIANE, BUNLEUR ON APRIL 9, 1976 AND
PRASERT ON MAY 24, 1976. THEY SAID THEY WERE DETAINED IN SAM KHE
PRISON FROM TIME OF THEIR ARRESTS UNTIL THEIR RELEASE
JUNE 20.

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PAGE 02 BANGKO 13920 270349Z

3. BOTH MEN REPORTED THAT THEY HAD NEITHER SEEN NOR HEARD OF
ANY AMERICAN PRISONER, CIVILIAN OR MILITARY, DURING THEIR TIME IN
PRISON.

4. HOWEVER, THEY CLAIMED TO HAVE SEEN AN AUSTRALIAN PRISONER
WHO THEY SAID WAS DETAINED AT SAM KHE ABOUT THREE MONTHS AGO.
PRASERT SAID THE AUSTRALIAN WAS NAMED "JOHNNY HARLAND" BUT

BUNLEUR IDENTIFIED HIM AS "CHARLEY CHARLAND".

5. PRASERT ESTIMATED THAT THERE ARE AN ADDITIONAL FIFTY THAI PRISONERS STILL BEING HELD IN SAM KHE. HE STATED THAT AMONG THEM IS A "FARANG-LOOKING" THAI FORMERLY EMPLOYED BY USG.

6. FURTHER BACKGROUND DATA ON PRASERT AND BUNLEUR FOLLOWS:

(A) PRASERT IS A 46-YEAR OLD NATIVE OF UDORN PROVINCE. HE SAID HE HAS A FOURTH GRADE EDUCATION AND WORKED AS A SAMLOR DRIVER IN VIENTIANE AT TIME OF HIS ARREST.

(B) BUNLEUR IS A 25-YEAR OLD NATIVE OF CHANTABURI PROVINCE. HIS EDUCATION IS ALSO LIMITED TO FOURTH GRADE. CONREP REPORTS THAT BUNLEUR GAVE IMPRESSION OF BEING FORMER DOPE ADDICT WHO HAD BEEN HANGING AROUND VIENTIANE TO OBTAIN CHEAP DRUGS.

ACCORDING TO NONG KHAI IMMIGRATION CHIEF, WHO HELPED ARRANGE INTERVIEWS WITH THESE TWO MEN FOR CONREP, PRASERT AND BUNLEUR HAD BEEN IN SAM KHE LONGEST OF SEVEN RELEASED DETAINEES. IMMIGRATION CHIEF ADDED THAT HIS STAFF PROCESSED AND RELEASED OTHER FIVE DETAINEES SAME DAY OF THEIR ARRAVAL FROM LAOS BECAUSE THEY HAD DOCUMENTS CLEARLY ESTABLISHING THEIR IDENTITY AS THAI CITIZENS. PRASERT AND BUNLEUR WERE STILL IN CUSTODY OF IMMIGRATION CHIEF BECAUSE CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 BANGKO 13920 270349Z

THEY HAD LOST THEIR IDENTITY DOCUMENTS AND WERE AWAITING ARRIVAL OF RELATIVES TO VOUCH FOR THEM. SIGNED FINNEY. UNQUOTE. WHITEHOUSE

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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 27-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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TAGS: SHUM, PGOV, PINS, TH, LA, (PRASERT BOONSONG), (BUNLEUR BOVAWASANAROM)
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